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## House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

### MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 21, 1997 the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 25 minutes, and each Member except the majority leader and minority leader or the minority whip limited to not to exceed 5 minutes, but in no event shall continue beyond 9:50 a.m.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SCARBOROUGH) for 5 minutes.

### CONGRESS MUST NOT TURN A BLIND EYE TO CHINA'S ABUSES

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, human rights activist and former political prisoner, Harry Wu, was interviewed on "This Week." When asked about America's relations with China, and specifically asked about President Clinton's assertion that one must accept the administration's position towards China or be seen as a backwards isolationist, Mr. Wu responded by stating, "President Clinton said if you disagree with my engagement policy, that means you want to apply isolation. This is too cheap to argue. Okay, today there is nobody talking about isolation. Between isolation and engagement there is something in the middle."

Mr. Speaker, what Mr. Wu may not understand as a recent arrival in the United States of America is what actually underlies the China policy not only of this administration but also of many in this Congress.

Why do we continue to embrace a regime that this President called the "Butchers of Beijing" just a few years

ago? Unfortunately, it is because of America's obsession with finance. Our obsession with finance and a Dow Jones over 9,000 points, absolutely mesmerizes politicians who are led to believe they can get away with anything, so long as the Dow is doing well and the economy is clicking along while constituents personal incomes are rising.

The soaring Dow also mesmerizes the wizards of Wall Street, who have been stumbling over each other acting as apologists for the butchers in Beijing. One CEO has said there is actually more democracy in China than in America because, after all, more Chinese vote. The Wall Street Journal reported one defense contractor firm that sent their engineers over to China to train Chinese engineers how to make their jet fighters more competitive with American jet fighters.

Well, unfortunately, I think we are making a grave mistake. I think we are turning our back on the idea that America is the last great hope for a dying world, whether it is us turning a blind eye to the horrors of Sudan where Christians are persecuted, and turning a blind eye simply because we want an oil pipeline over there. Or whether it is turning a blind eye to the Buddhists being brutalized in Tibet because we do not want to, after all, offend China. Or whether it is this China MFN debate where we find out that the Communist Chinese are funneling money to America to influence our elections.

We hear nothing but silence because, after all, we do not want to offend the next great export market for the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is regrettable. And I think this false choice that we must somehow either believe in pure, unadulterated free trade with the Communist Chinese regime or risk being isolationists is a false choice that is very dangerous.

Those of us that are opposed to MFN with China are being attacked not only

by the President but by lobbyists downtown. BIPAC, a business PAC, has sent an angry memo around talking about backward isolationist Republicans who are not "business friendly."

I am distressed that we are being attacked because of our concern with a regime that is the most oppressive in the world; because we have concerns with a regime that has killed 60 million of their own people since 1949; because we are concerned about a regime that continues to export nuclear technology to Pakistan and Iran; because we are concerned with a regime that continues to steal America's intellectual property; because we are concerned with a regime that continues to abuse human rights; because we are concerned with a regime that continues to persecute hundreds of thousands of Christians and Buddhists and other people seeking religious freedom.

Let us reexamine our China policy.

Russell Kirk once said, "No matter the volume of its steel production, a nation which has disavowed principle is vanquished." And Winston Churchill, when asked about the current state of his party in the 1950s said, "The old conservative party, with its religious convictions and constitutional principles, will disappear and a new party will rise . . . perhaps like the Republican party in the USA . . . rigid, materialistic, and secular, whose opinions will turn on tariffs and who will cause the lobbies to be crowded with the touts of protected industries."

Mr. Speaker, let us hope that does not happen to the Republican Party of the 21st century.

### AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT: GIVING VOICE TO WORKERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 21, 1997, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. VENTO) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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